COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

November 29, 2016

Mr. Brian E. Kamoie Assistant Administrator, Grants Program Director Federal Emergency Management Agency 800 K Street, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor Tower Washington, DC 20001

Re: Evansville Fire Department FY 2016 AFG application -- DHS-16-GPD-044-00-99

Dear Mr. Kamoie:

As Senator from the State of Indiana, I support FEMA's efforts to help our emergency response personnel acquire the equipment required to ensure their safety, health and fitness. It is important that the maintenance of their health remain a priority so they can be in the best condition possible to respond to emergencies. The Evansville Fire Department (EFD) needs to install source capture vehicle exhaust systems in its fire stations, in order to protect the air quality of those serving.

The Evansville Fire Department has 14 stations throughout the City of Evansville, which is located in southwest Indiana. Evansville is the commercial, medical and cultural hub of this area, and is home to approximately 120,000 residents.

EFD needs to install a source capture vehicle exhaust system in each of its fire stations in order to be in compliance with NFPA 1500. These systems will reduce the negative health consequences of frequent exposure to highly toxic and carcinogenic gases and particulates from vehicle emissions, and aligns with the highest priority of the AFG Fire Operations and Firefighter Safety Program.

I encourage a favorable review of the EFD application for the Assistance to Firefighters Grant in accordance with U.S. law and public policy. I would appreciate being notified when a decision is made. Questions and announcements can be directed to my office by contacting Marianne Black at Marianne\_Black@donnelly.senate.gov or by telephone at (317) 226-5555.

Sincerely,

Joe Donnelly

United States Senator